GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1132
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2001
TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN VILLAGES
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target schedule of providing telephone connections to all the villages in the country has suffered a set back;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to achieve the target?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) to (c): Government is committed to provide telephone facility in all the villages of the country by 2002. Total 410,422 out of 607,491 villages have already been provided with telephone facility upto 30.6.2001. VPT target of BSNL for the current year is 143,255. The balance VPTs are to be provided by the Private basic service providers.
To achieve this target, Wireless in local Loop (WLL) system is being inducted on a large scale into the rural network. Orders have been issued for procurement of 600 K lines of WLL system for the current financial year. Supply of equipment has already commenced.